

ANNUAL REPORT | APRIL 1, 2021 - MARCH 31, 2022



A large, white, bold, sans-serif "UNBC" logo centered on a dark green rectangular background.

Health Research Institute

University of Northern BC

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HRI Manager: 10-1578

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MESSAGE FROM HRI CO-CHAIRS

We are very pleased to submit our report on UNBC's Health Research Institute for 2021-2022. The past year has been marked by important transitions and developments within Health Research landscape in northern BC and beyond. Each of these has underscored the relevance of UNBC's Health Research Institute (HRI), providing an ongoing basis to support a thriving Health Research community in Northern BC and to progress our mission to help in the creation and sharing of knowledge that increases the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities.

Among the transitions that HRI has successfully navigated over the past year are the many adjustments involved with COVID-19, including moving from online to in-person and hybrid activities. Our HRI gatherings have demonstrated the value of HRI's role in bringing the health research community together, and showcasing health research in the north through brown bag lunches, seminar series, and collaborative co-hosted events. Our "Better Together for Health Research in Northern BC" event in March 2022, was a successful hybrid event that brought together diverse Health Research partners to profile updates across the health research landscape, including from UNBC, Northern Health, Northern Centre for Clinical Research, BC Network Environment for Indigenous Health Research, Michael Smith Health Research BC, the HRI and the Rural Coordination Centre of BC.

Transitions in HRI leadership and personnel have been another feature of the last year. In December 2020 we said farewell to Rachael Wells as our founding Manager of the HRI, and have been very fortunate to welcome Leana Garraway into this role. Our team was also supported by Lisa McGhee while Bree Loeffler was on maternity leave. The HRI has welcomed several new members of our Leadership Council including Shannon Freeman (Nursing), Annie Duchesne (Psychology), Waqar Haque (Business), and Cameron Aird (Student Representative). We thank current Leadership Council members Sarah Gray, Heather Peters, and Aderonke Agboji, as well as former Leadership Council members Geoff Payne, Henry Harder, Dawn Hemingway, Neil Hanlon, Margo Greenwood, Candida Graham, Lela Zimmer, Shayna Dolan, Daman Kandola, and Erika Belanger for their contributions to the Leadership Council over recent years.

Another important transition for the HRI has been recruiting and confirming new co-leads for the Leadership Council. In Sept 2021, Margot Parkes (School of Health Sciences) stepped in as HRI Co-Lead and in April 2022 Sarah Gray (Northern Medical Program) stepped into her co-lead role. Recruitment of new co-leads, has been associated with a farewell and thanks to Martha MacLeod as founding co-lead of the HRI, as she prepares for retirement starting in July 2022. Martha's foundational contributions were recognized at our April 2022 Annual General meeting, and those contributions will continue through the many leadership roles she has passed on to the new Co-Leads and Leadership Council members.

Throughout these transitions, the HRI continues to build on existing strengths, through the ongoing success of the Knowledge Synthesis Centre, supporting and showcasing health research in the north, and hosting the Northern BC Research and Quality conference in partnership with Northern Health.

We are looking forward to the many opportunities ahead to extend the work of the HRI. Our thanks to all of you in the Health Research community in northern BC.

Sincerely,

Martha MacLeod & Margot Parkes

ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

The UNBC Health Research Institute (HRI) is designed to enable UNBC's experienced and emerging health researchers (faculty, staff and students) from across the 5 Faculties and the Division of Medical Sciences, to join together for the purpose of furthering health research and innovation. The Institute provides a venue for collaboration, support, and the creation of partnerships among researchers from many disciplines concerned with health and its determinants. All who are engaged in health research are invited to become members of the HRI. Members of the HRI include researchers and students from across UNBC and its partners.

Vision

The UNBC Health Research Institute envisions a world in which healthy individuals, families and communities live without health inequities.

Mission

To facilitate the creation and translation of knowledge that will enhance the health and well-being of individuals, families and communities. The Health Research Institute will pursue this mission through promoting knowledge creation, knowledge synthesis and exchange, fostering links among researchers, stakeholders and partners such as Northern Health (NH), and developing research capacity.

Core Strategic Directions

The Health Research Institute has four core strategic directions. While they are outlined separately, they are interconnected in practice.

1. Knowledge Creation
2. Knowledge Synthesis and Exchange
3. Fostering Linkages
4. Capacity Development

Themes

Our members conduct research in the following areas:

- Biomedical
- Clinical
- Social & Environmental Determinants of Health
- Indigenous Health
- Health Services and Policy

Services

One of the ways that the Institute supports health research at UNBC is by sharing services and co-location of staff and research associates/assistant. This has allowed for synergy in research training, the maximization of research resources, and full utilization of space and research equipment (TAL 10-1586), as many research assistants and trainees work on specific projects part-time. It has meant that experienced research staff are available at short notice, which translates into flexibility and responsiveness when working with researchers and fulfilling a Secretariat role with research partners.

The HRI staff provide services to faculty, students, and partners, such as:

- Networking and partnership development
- Provide letters of support and/or collaboration for new proposed research and training
- Research project support (start up, implementation and monitoring)
- Provision of a venue for mentorship, training and capacity strengthening for faculty, trainees, and students
- Knowledge synthesis development and support
- Knowledge translation and exchange opportunities



LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

The Leadership Council provides overall stewardship of the HRI. The Council works collaboratively to mobilize resources to support research development and the emerging long-term strategic vision of the Institute.



Martha MacLeod

School of Nursing, FHHS, School of Health Sciences, FHHS

Co-Lead (term ending April 2022)



Margot Parkes

School of Health Sciences, FHHS, Northern Medical Program, DMS

Co-Lead



Sarah Gray

Northern Medical Program, DMS

Co-Lead (term starting April 2022)



Annie Duchesne

Psychology, FHHS



Waqar Haque

School of Business, FBE; Department of Computer Science, FSE



Shannon Freeman

School of Nursing, FHHS



Heather Peters

School of Social Work, FHHS



Aderonke Agboji

Student Representative
PhD Candidate, School of Health Sciences



Cameron Aird

Student Representative
Masters Student, School of Health Sciences

HRI STAFF



Leana Garraway

HRI Manager & Co-Lead of the BC
SUPPORT Unit Northern Centre



Bree Loeffler

Administrative Assistant (on leave)



Katie Cornish

Research Associate



Lisa McGhee

Administrative Assistant (term)



Alex Lane

Research Assistant



Erica Koopmans

Research Associate

UPDATE ON INSTITUTE ACTIVITIES

APRIL 1, 2021 - MARCH 31, 2022



Image: Health Research Institute Annual General Meeting

KNOWLEDGE CREATION

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

The Institute supports faculty and trainees to develop their capacity to create new knowledge. Research is not undertaken under the auspices of the HRI itself, but facilitates and supports research activities. Over the past year, the HRI has supported its members to develop new knowledge in the following ways:

Seed Funding Programs:

Developing Northern Research Collaborations Awards, BC SUPPORT Unit Northern Centre Initiative

From 2016-2022, the BC SUPPORT Unit Northern Centre, co-led by the HRI and Northern Health (NH), administered a funding program for UNBC and NMP researchers to request funding to work with health care providers, decision makers, and patient partners to develop collaborations for person, family, and community centred research that focuses on northern issues and challenges. The successful teams receive up to \$10,000 on a one-year term. In total the Northern Centre has funded 10 awards to support researchers to establish patient-oriented research teams and catalyze new research plans. For a detailed list outlining teams who received funding, please visit the [HRI Website](#), or see Appendix A.

Collaboration for Health Research in Northern BC, PHSA-NH-UNBC Partnership

The HRI continues to serve as the Secretariat for the UNBC, Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) and NH partnership and supports the teams funded by the Collaboration for Health Research in Northern BC Seed Grant Program. The HRI has released seven calls for applications since 2016 and provided funding to twenty one teams and four of these teams are still active. For a detailed list of the funded teams, please visit the [HRI Website](#), or see Appendix B.

Project support:

The HRI manager and staff have developed considerable skill in working with a variety of health researchers on research supports. Once projects are successfully funded, the HRI staff are available to support project start up, implementation, monitoring, and project management. This service is cost recovered from the Academic Lead.

Supports Provided:

- Proposal Letters of Support
- Project Management
- Research Navigation and Planning
- Research Assistant Supervision and Training
- Methodological Consultations for Evidence Syntheses
- Training and DistillerSR support
- Knowledge Translation and Mobilization Outputs

Adjudication Committees

- The HRI Manager and Academic Lead were members of multiple adjudication committees in 2021-2022, supporting the funding of new research projects from:
 - Interior Universities Research Collaboration of British Columbia
 - UNBC Research Data Centre
 - PHSA-NH-UNBC Collaboration for Research in Northern BC
 - Rural Coordination Centre of BC



Image: BC SUPPORT Unit Methods Cluster Workshop

KNOWLEDGE SYNTHESIS AND EXCHANGE

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

The HRI hosts and facilitates many opportunities for knowledge exchange. We offer two regular monthly seminars, partner with UNBC faculty and other organizations to host conferences and seminars and offer guest presentations when possible. The UNBC Knowledge Synthesis Centre is located within the HRI, and led by the NH-UNBC Knowledge Mobilization Research Chair (Dr. Martha MacLeod). The HRI uses several communication channels to promote the work of HRI Members, these include the HRI website, email list and social media accounts (FaceBook, Twitter, Instagram), and e-newsletters (BC SUPPORT Unit Northern Centre).

Knowledge Synthesis Centre

The Knowledge Synthesis Centre was established in 2019 to create a structure and process to provide more consistent support for syntheses undertaken by UNBC faculty.

SERVICES

Collaborative Knowledge Synthesis Projects

- Rapid review
- Rapid realist review
- Realist review
- Scoping review
- Integrative review
- Umbrella (overview) review
- Contextualization of systematic reviews
- Environmental Scan

Methodological Services

- Question formulation
- Search strategies
- Quality Checks

SUPPORTS

Consultations

- Synthesis methods
- Types of syntheses
- Budgets
- Timelines

Brokering partnerships between external partners and academic leads

CAPACITY

Knowledge synthesis training

- workshops
- seminars
- webinars

Conducting & interpreting syntheses

Synthesis resources & guides

Opportunities to gain practical experience conducting knowledge syntheses

- Student RAs
- Student synthesis projects (nursing students research projects, NMP FLEX)

Synthesis coaching for faculty, associates, students

KT Centre Core Functions

- Respond to knowledge user needs for synthesis contextualized for rural, remote, and northern health issues, services, and programs
- Support health researchers conducting knowledge synthesis
- Build capacity among students, researchers, and knowledge users

Knowledge Synthesis Centre Goals

- Provide timely, contextualized, evidence-based syntheses to inform the optimal management of patient care, resources and services, and development of policy and programs
- Support researchers in conducting high quality, rigorous, health related knowledge syntheses with rural and northern applicability
- Involve patients, partners, and decision makers in meaningful ways in synthesis and contextualization process
- Offer training and mentorship opportunities to students, researchers, and knowledge users
- Make syntheses more visible and obtainable
- Inform the design and conduct of new health research attentive to the needs and realities of northern British Columbians

Knowledge Synthesis Projects, 2021-2022

Primary Investigator	Project Title
Davina Banner-Lukaris	*Organizational Factors that Foster Engagement-Capable Environments: A Study of Health Research Networks
Martha MacLeod	*A Hermeneutic Approach to Advancing Implementation Science Scoping Review
Erin Wilson	*Cancer Care Coordination Rapid Realist Review
Shannon Freeman	1. *Patient Oriented Predictive Modeling of Healthcare Utilization 2. Dementia Housing Strategies
Annie Duchesne	1. Environmental Xenoestrogens-humans 2. Environmental Xenoestrogens-animals
Caroline Sanders	1. Central Interior Native Health Society (CINHS) Perinatal Mortality Review Project 2. A mixed method community action study exploring 'life-cycle' healthcare transitions with Canadians experiencing intersex variations
Shannon Wagner	1. Prevalence and work implications of trauma-related mental health conditions in high-risk personnel 2. Interventions and prevention of trauma-related mental health conditions in high-risk personnel
Heath Matheson	The effect of dual-task motor interference on higher-order cognitive processes: a systematic review and meta analysis
Chelsea Pelletier	Physical activity promotion in rural health care settings: A rapid realist review

Brown Bag Lunch Series

The Brown Bag Lunch series is a joint initiative between Northern Health and UNBC to promote health research and quality improvement in the North. The series takes place on the fourth Thursday of every month and feature a variety of health research and quality improvement topics and presenters. The presentations have been held virtually since 2020 via Zoom. Recordings of the Brown Bag Presentations are available on the [NH website](#).

Brown Bag Lunch Series Speakers June 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022

JUNE 2021	Naomi Khan, Lisa Ronald and Paula Tait Climate change and health impacts in northern British Columbia: An overview.
OCT 2022	Dr. Margot Parkes, Dr. Raina Fumerton, & Sally Western From cumulative impacts to co-benefits: Why engaging intersectoral partners on the health impacts of resource development offers pathways to a healthier future for Northern BC
NOV 2021	Dr. Caroline Sanders, Lisa Provencher, Tess Amyot, Erica Koopmans, & Theresa Frank What About the Kids? Learning from Early Years Research Initiatives in Northern BC in the Midst of COVID-19
JAN 2022	Caitlin Blewett, & Dr. Tina Fyfe Understanding the Experience of Rural Maternity Care Providers During the COVID-19 Response in British Columbia
Feb 2022	Dr. Davina Banner, Dr. Nancy Clark, Shayna Dolan & Barbara Croome Barriers to Engagement in Patient-Oriented Research
March 2022	Dr. Raelene Marceau Sustainability Failure: Understanding the Factors Influencing Sustainability of Innovations in the Canadian Health Care System

Health Research Seminar Series

The UNBC Health Research Seminar Series runs monthly between September and April and provides a venue for local and visiting researchers from a variety of disciplines and UNBC honors and graduate students to present their research. The Seminar Series is sponsored by UNBC Schools of Social Work, Nursing and Health Sciences and the Northern Medical Program. As well, the Sun Life Financial Rural Endowment Fund provides financial support to run the logistics for the event. Attendance is in person and online. Recordings of past sessions can be viewed on the HRI Website.

Health Research Seminar Series Speakers for the September 2021-April 2022 Year

SEPTEMBER

Six UNBC Health Researchers



Careers in Health Research Panel

OCTOBER

Dr. Malgorzata Kaminska



Should I Sit or Should I Go?
Exploring the role of our legs in
cognitive performance
enhancement

NOVEMBER

Dr. MacLeod, Peter Zimmer, Steinunn
Jonatansdottir & Leana Garraway



Patient Oriented Research:
Discussion and Reflections

DECEMBER

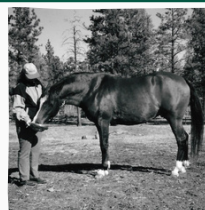
Dr. Margot Parkes



Healthy Confluences & River
Conversations: Lessons from eco-
social approaches to public health
from oceana to Canada

JANUARY

Dr. Karen Davidson



Navigating nutrition-related factors
& their relationships with mental
and cognitive health

FEBRUARY

Dr. Taru Manyanga



Movement Behaviours & Health
Outcomes in children and youth:
Which interventions work and for
whom?

FEBRUARY

Dr. Margo Greenwood



Dreaming it into Being: the Realization
of the National Collaborating Centre
for Indigenous Health

MARCH

Drs. Julia Bickford, Esther
Alonso-Prieto & Marcelo Bravo



So you want to do research with
Northern Health? Understanding the
role of research administration & KT at
Northern Health

APRIL

Lindsay Carpenter, Aiden Winkel,
Hayley Hirvi, Gemma Marchant &
Jonathan Doyon



Honours Student Presentations

Guest Presentations and Sponsored Events

The HRI welcomes the opportunity to work with its members and partners to host guest presentations and support events that align with its mission. We encourage HRI members to work with the Institute as a venue for logistical and promotional support for their knowledge translation and exchange activities. The table below summarizes the presentations and events that the HRI sponsored, co-hosted or supported over the past year.

OCT 2021	BCCI-3 Conversations & Connections: Climate justice and health equity in Northern British Columbia Meet and Greet
DEC 2021	Precision Health: Building Understanding and Exploring Opportunities Workshop
MAR 2022	Better Together for Health Research in Northern BC A discussion of key developments for supporting health research in northern BC
MAR 2022	Addressing the Toxic Drug Supply Crisis in Northern BC: Developing Person Centered Strategies workshop and dialogue
MAR 2022	A Hermeneutics Approach to Implementation Science: Writing and Knowledge Translation Planning Workshop

Please email hri@unbc.ca if you are interested in working with the HRI to support an upcoming knowledge translation or exchange activity.



Learning from Adversity: Pathways to Success

This biennial 3-day conference brings together researchers, patient partners, students, physicians and healthcare providers to share and celebrate health and health services research, evaluation, evidence-based practice and quality improvement initiatives in the North. Sponsored by the BC SUPPORT Unit Northern Centre and Northern Health, this conference is an example of the partnership between Northern Health and UNBC, based in the commitment to work together to improve the health and well-being of people in the north.

Northern BC Research and Quality Conference: Summary of Events

Keynote Speaker
Dr. Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond,
author of the In Plain Sight Report

1

150

Over 150 attendees

Plenary Panel Speakers
Topic: Learning Health Systems
and Data in the North

6



NORTHERN BC
RESEARCH AND QUALITY
CONFERENCE

90

Oral presentations

Exhibitor Booths

11

40

Poster presentations

Skill Building Workshops

12

5

Rapid fire presentations

Knowledge Translation Products Summary

A list of products that the HRI Manager and staff produced or contributed to across various research teams

Scientific Publications

1. Leese J, **Garraway L**, Li LC, Oelke RN, MacLeod M. (2021). Adapting patient and public involvement in patient-oriented methods research: Reflections in a Canadian setting during COVID-19. *Health Expect.*;1-5. doi: 10.1111/hex.13387
2. Pelletier, C., **Cornish, K.**, Sanders, C. (2021). Children's independent mobility and physical activity during the COVID-19 pandemic: A qualitative study with families. *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health*, 18(9), 4481. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18094481>
3. Pelletier, C., Ross, C., Bailey, K. Fyfe, T., **Cornish, K., & Koopmans, E.** (2022). Health research priorities for wildlife firefighters: A modified Delphi study with stakeholders' interviews. *Medicine BMJ Open Access*. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2021-051227
4. **Koopmans, E., Cornish, K.**, Fyfe, T.M. et al. (2022). Health risks and mitigation strategies from occupational exposure to wildland fire: A scoping review. *J Occup Med Toxicol* 17 (2). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12995-021-00328-w>

Plain Language Publications

1. Northern Centre Update Newsletters: 4 Editions
2. Marcelo Bravo and Leana Garraway. SPOR Work Moving into Phase II. Northern Health Research and Knowledge Translation Newsletter (3rd Edition)
3. Sarah Munt and Leana Garraway. The 2021 Northern BC Research and Quality Conference: Celebrating the North. Northern Health Research and Knowledge Translation Newsletter (4rd Edition).
4. Health Research Priorities for Wildlife Firefighters Project: Plain Language Summary
5. Rapid Realist Review-Plain Language Summary
6. Physical Activity Alliance of Northern BC (PAANBC) - workshop findings Plain Language Summary
7. Children's independent Mobility and Physical Activity During the COVID-19 Pandemic - Plain Language Summary

Educational Materials and Presentations

1. How has Covid-19 affected families in the early years in Northern BC? Project Knowledge Translation Video <https://seedbc.ca/how-has-covid-19-affected-families-in-the-early-years-in-northern-bc/>
2. Family Perspectives on Children's Independent Mobility in Northern British Columbia Presentation (Northern BC Research & Quality Conference & Putting Patients First Conference)
3. What the heck is the HRI and Why Should you Care? (UNBC Winter Welcome)
4. Opportunities at the Knowledge Synthesis Centre (Northern Medical Student FLEX Day)
5. What exactly is the Health Research Institute (UNBC Research Week: Research Matters)

FOSTERING LINKAGES

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

Linkages are fostered through the creation of partnerships, the provision of support functions with UNBC health related partners, liaising with other research institutes at UNBC and elsewhere. The HRI also plays an active role in facilitating linkages for students and trainees to enhance their training, mentorship and development while at UNBC. The administration function HRI plays to the partnered initiatives has allowed the HRI to secure funding that supports health researchers and the development of health research and researcher capacity. The goals and objectives for each partnered initiative can be viewed on the HRI Website.

Partners

Over the past year, the HRI continued to work in close partnership to provide administrative functions with the following partners:

- Northern Health (NH)
- Rural Coordination Centre of BC (RCCbc)
- BC SUPPORT Unit Northern Centre
- Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA)



Collaborations

During 2021-2022 the HRI facilitating and provided support to events that were venues for researchers, health care professional, patient partners, students and other stakeholders to collaborate together. Of particular note were:

The HRI Manager co-hosted the Northern BC Research and Quality Conference with their Northern Health counterparts, as well as being part of the conference planning and administrative committees. HRI Manager and staff also supported the event by taking part in the abstract review committee & poster judging, acting as sessions moderators & tech support, and presenting. HRI staff also hosted a skill building workshop in collaboration with the UNBC Health Science Librarian, and provided supports for a second conference skill building workshop.

HRI staff chaired regular working group meetings with Northern Prescribers (nurse practitioners), NH public health and UNBC researchers to plan a strategic dialogue about how to provide person centered care for substance users. The working group hosted a stakeholder engagement dialogue in the spring of 2022.

The HRI organized the Better Together for Health Research In Northern BC meeting with those involved in health researchers, as a venue to update and discuss key developments for supporting health research in northern BC.

Image: BC SPOR SUPPORT Unit Methods Cluster research team & HRI staff at the Hermeneutic Approach to Implementation Science Writing and Knowledge Translation Workshop.



Working Groups and Committees

The HRI manager and staff are members of several local/regional, provincial, and national working groups and committees. The administrative function provided by the HRI for Partnered Initiatives provides opportunities to enhance research activities at UNBC with the aim to enhancing UNBC's research and partnerships.

Local/Regional

- UNBC Regional Data Centre Advisory Committee
- Northern BC Research and Quality Conference Planning and Administration Committees
- UNBC Health Research Seminar Series Planning Committee
- NH-UNBC Memorandum of Understanding Research & Knowledge Translation Working Group

Provincial

- REACH BC Advisory Committee
- Rural Health Services Research Network of BC Research Support Group
- BC Knowledge Translation Collaborative
- BC SUPPORT Unit Regional Centres + Hub Leads
- BC SUPPORT Unit Working Groups:
 - Research Navigators
 - Regional Centre Leads
 - Retreat Planning

National

- N2 Clinical Trials and Education and Awareness Working Group

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

A major focus in 2021-2022 for the HRI was facilitating and supporting research projects and activities disrupted by the COVID 19 pandemic. This included offering no-cost extensions and supports to 3 patient-oriented research projects (see Appendix A) and 2 graduate student fellowships (See Appendix C) funded by the BC SUPPORT Unit Northern Regional Centre.

Also important was increasing awareness of the HRI and the services it provides in the northern health research community, including among UNBC students. This was accomplished by:

Presentations, Activities and Workshops:

- Presenting at UNBC Research Week: Research Matters
- Participating in a Careers in Health Research Panel (HRI Seminar Series September, 2021)
- Conducting an HRI Photo Contest
- Hosting a workshop: Navigating Knowledge Synthesis: Completing an Evidence Review from Initial Idea to Mobilization of Findings

Student Engagement

- Participating in Health Promotion Career Panel & Health Sciences Graduate Student Orientation
- Presenting at the UNBC Student Winter Welcome
- Presenting at the Northern Medical Student FLEX Day
- Methodological Consultations for Evidence Syntheses
- Training and DistillerSR support
- Conference abstract support provided

HRI staff also participated in a case study for an evaluation of the DistillerSR software by the Evidence Matters company. HRI staff provided information on how Distiller can be used as a tool to answer research questions in context of northern, rural and remote communities and how it is an easy-to-use tool for engaging patient partners in research.

OPERATIONAL BUDGET

For FY 2021-2022 and Projected Expenses for FY 2022-2023

	<u>Actual 2021-2022</u>	<u>Projected 2022-2023</u>
Opening Balance	319,816	374,960
REVENUES		
AHSN SPOR Northern Centre	528,125	330,000
Recovery for Distiller Use	6,050	6,000
Wage Cost Recovery	50,983	10,000
TOTAL REVENUE	585,158	346,000
EXPENSES		
Salaries	455,099	175,160
Operating Expenses	33,548	10,000
Transfers	12,700	
Seed Grant Research Awards	29,667	40,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	530,014	225,160
Closing Balance	374,960	495,800

NOTES

The opening balances of the 4 accounts managed by the HRI consist of:

- HRI Base Operating: \$86,547
- AHSN-SPOR Northern Centre: \$116,539
- Provincial Health Services Authority Seed Grant Fund: \$77,439
- Rural Coordination Centre of BC: \$39, 291

Committed Funds: AHSN-SPOR Northern Centre Partnership Transfer to Northern Health

- 2021-2022 \$218, 400
- 2022-2023 \$165,000

LOOKING FORWARD

2022 - 2027

Better Together For Health Research In Northern BC Event March, 2022



LOOKING FORWARD

2022 - 2027

The HRI will continue to pursue its four strategic directions/goals: knowledge creation, knowledge exchange and translation, fostering linkages, and capacity development. It will implement objectives and activities in a collaborative and networked way, which allows the Institute to be strategic yet flexible and opportunistic in its actions.

Objectives and Activities for the Next 5 Years:

1



Knowledge Creation

1



Objectives

1. To increase the breadth of engagement with our partners for knowledge creation
2. To continue and increase support for grant development and grant management
3. To foster the building of research teams (e.g. including researcher/knowledge user teams)

Activities

1. Create forums for exchange of ideas and interconnections amongst researchers and knowledge users to identify knowledge needed to inform decision making and change
2. Support the services provided by the Office of Research and develop shared resources for health research and training (e.g. RAs, supplies, equipment, space, web maintenance/coordination)
3. Continue to administer seed grants that promote research partnerships. Look for opportunities to support research development across all research themes

2



Knowledge Exchange & Mobilization

2



Objectives

1. To create a sustained Knowledge Synthesis Centre
2. To support KT and scientific communication through graphics and outputs
3. To promote the creation of scholarly materials and materials for knowledge users
4. To offer training in knowledge translation

Activities

1. Be responsive to our Partner's evidence needs
 - Develop champions in KS methods
 - Create streamlined processes to accept funding for KS projects
 - Increase KS training opportunities
2. Develop and profile resources and tools to assist researchers in sharing their evidence to a variety of audiences
 - Develop and profile resources to support the development of KT products in a variety of media platforms (web, print, video)

3



Fostering linkages

3



Objectives

1. To continue to advocate for the strengths of UNBC's research environment with funding agencies
2. To maintain and extend a strong multidisciplinary research culture
3. To enhance researcher and trainee reputation and linkages

Activities

1. Continue to serve as the administrator for UNBC health related partnerships
2. Liaise with other research institutes and centres at UNBC
3. Continue to promote HRI within the schools and programs across UNBC
4. Develop & implement HRI Membership Tiers to better engage and suit the needs of members
5. Foster working relationships with health research institutes provincially, nationally, and internationally
6. Facilitate opportunities to collaboration at UNBC with external researchers, groups & organizations

4



Capacity Development

4



Objectives

1. To become a training hub for health research trainees and junior faculty
2. To continue to advocate for improved data access and training for research needs
3. To enhance UNBC's training environment
4. To support the growth of the UNBC health research training environment
5. To develop student engagement

Activities

1. Mentor students (graduate students; create events to engage undergraduates)
2. Promote information sharing about current research training opportunities to undergraduate and graduate students
3. Bring graduate students together in education and social events
- Offer more meet-ups, networking, and training targeted towards students
4. Offer specific training in:
 - Knowledge synthesis methods
 - Knowledge translation and exchange
5. Provide opportunities for researcher development in collaboration with the UNBC Office of Research
6. Continue role on RDC at UNBC Advisory Committee
- Promote opportunities for training and use data for research
7. Contribute to the orientation and scholarly development of new faculty
8. Facilitate access to
 - Clinical research education and training through N2 & CITI
9. Leverage and share development opportunities through Michael Smith Health Research BC
10. Actively look for and act on opportunities to foster research leadership development

Strengthening the HRI and it's Services

Objectives

1. To promote the benefits of being involved with the HRI to researchers and trainees
2. To continue to offer administrative function for UNBC-NC partnered endeavours
3. To confirm on-going space for the HRI that serves its mandate for networking and support of faculty through shared services
4. Develop sustainable on-going funding support for core business functions of the institute
5. To formalize the structures and processes that the HRI offers to support research development
6. To incorporate regular evaluation of HRI initiatives and actions
7. To sustain and renew the HRI leadership
8. To expand researcher roles within the institute

Activities

1. Develop structures and processes to support shared services for HRI researchers. Develop HRI membership tiers with clear benefits connect to each tier
2. Maintain the role of the BC SUPPORT Unit Northern Regional Centre
3. Continue to articulate the needs for ongoing space to meet the needs of the HRI
4. Confirm core business functions of the HRI and how these enhance the goals and objectives of the Office of Research and Graduate Programs
5. Review and formalize structures and processes for services to be offered by the HRI (grant start up support, supervision of research project staff, assistance of research staff recruitment, provision of research assistant opportunities for students, mentorship of the project staff)
6. Implement an evaluation and monitoring system to better capture the outcomes achieved by researchers and trainees through partnered initiatives and funding
7. Diversify and expand the Leadership Council, and develop champions for the institute across all programs and faculties at UNBC
8. Explore with the VP Research opportunities to include visiting scholars and research scientists within the HRI.

APPENDIX A

Developing Northern Research Collaborations Award

BC SUPPORT Unit, Northern Centre

Teams:

Understanding engagement in care by patients who access opioid agonist therapy

UNBC Researcher: Erin Wilson

Health System Partners: Kristine Roswell, Healen Bourque, & Jennifer Hawkes

Patient/Community Partner: George Sears

Term: April 1, 2020-March 31, 2022

Exploring Children's Independent Mobility in Northern BC

UNBC Researchers: Chelsea Pelletier & Caroline Sanders

Health System Partners: Gloria Fox

Patient/Community Partners: Stacey Pickering, Jenessa Ellis & Erica McLean

Term: April 1, 2020-February 28, 2022

Preventing RhD Alloimmunization in Northern BC

UNBC Researcher: Trina Fyfe

Health System Partner: Christorina Taruc

Patient/Community Partner: Jennifer Hawkes

Term: September 2018 - February 28, 2022

Envisioning Health with Nadleh Whut'En

UNBC Researcher: Sarah De Leeuw

Health System Partners: Kelly Gunn

Patient/Community Partner: Carolyn Hilbert

Term: March 2018 - June 2020

Optimizing the Patient Experience in Medical Travel

UNBC Researcher: Denise Jaworsky

Health System Partner: Dave Sohi

Patient/Community Partners: Howard & Judy Chafin

Term: September 2018 - May 2020

Access to Care for Women with Complex Pregnancies in Northern BC: Patient Partner Capacity-Building

UNBC Researcher: Sheona Mitchell-Foster

Health System Partner: Denise Jaworsky

Patient/Community Partner: Trina Fyfe

Term: March 2018 - August 2019

Industry and Health in Northern BC Communities

UNBC Researcher: Margot Parkes

Health System Partner: Sandra Allison

Patient/Community Partner: Garry Thiessen

Term: March 2018 - March 2020

Building a Patient-Oriented Physical Activity Research Framework for Northern BC

UNBC Researcher: Chelsea Pelletier

Health System Partner: Kelsey Yarmish

Patient/Community Partners: Anne Pousette

Term: March 2018 - August 31, 2019

How Can Stories of Stroke Lead to Actionable Health Research and Improve Health Care Services

UNBC Researcher: Davina Banner-Lukaris

Health System Partner: Haidar Hadi

Patient/Community Partner: Barbara Croome

Term: September 2018 - March 2020

Improving Mental Health Service User's Experiences of Cancer Care via Patient Engagement

UNBC Researcher: Roseann Larstone

Health System Partner: Robert Olson

Patient/Community Partner: Carrie McLeod / Linda Hoepfner

Term: September 2018 - December 15, 2019

Cardiac Rehabilitation in Northwestern BC: Developing Capacity for a Patient-Oriented Research Project

UNBC Researcher: Chelsea Pelletier

Health System Partner: Denise Jaworsky

Patient/Community Partner: Liane Busse

Term: September 2018 - September 2019

How Can Stories of Stroke Lead to Actionable Health Research and Improve Health Care Services

UNBC Researcher: Davina Banner-Lukaris

Health System Partner: Haidar Hadi

Patient/Community Partner: Barbara Croome

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UNBC Researcher: Chelsea Pelletier

Health System Partner: Denise Jaworsky

Patient/Community Partner: Liane Busse

Term: September 2018 - September 2019

APPENDIX B

Collaboration for Health Research in Northern BC Seed Grant Program

PHSA, NH, UNBC

Active Teams:

Building dialogue for clinical research collaborations and leadership in Northern BC

UNBC Lead: Dr. Davina Banner-Lukaris, Associate Professor, Nursing

PHSA Lead: Rob Olson, Radiation Oncologist, BC Centre for the North

NH Lead: Julia Bickford, Regional Director, Research, Evaluation and Analytics

Term: May 1, 2021 - October 31, 2022

Assessing Community Vulnerability to Health Impacts of Climate Change in Northern British Columbia: An Exploratory Study

UNBC Lead: Dr. Margot Parkes, Associate Professor, School of Health Sciences

PHSA Lead: Eleni Galanis, Medical Health Officer, Population Health

NH Lead: Rob Olson, Physician Epidemiologist

Term: May 1, 2021-October 31, 2022

Day-to-day living during COVID-19 – a community participation study exploring the pandemic's impact on the early years, ages 0-8 yrs, across Northern communities analysis

UNBC Lead: Dr. Caroline Sanders, Associate Professor, School of Nursing

PHSA Lead: Erica Koopmans, Regional Coordinator, Child Health BC

NH Lead: Lauren Irving, Nurse Practitioner

Term: May 1, 2021-October 31, 2022

Care following non-fatal opioid overdose at the University Hospital of Northern British Columbia Emergency Department: A retrospective chart review

UNBC Lead: Dr. Erin Wilson, Assistant Professor, School of Nursing

PHSA Lead: Amanda Slaunwhite, Senior Scientist, BC Centre for Disease Control

NH Lead: Kerensa Medhurst, Project Manager, Overdose Response

Term: May 1, 2021-October 31, 2022

Funding for Trainees: BC SUPPORT Unit Northern Regional Centre – Graduate Studentship Award

From 2019-2021 The BC SUPPORT Unit Northern Regional Centre offered a Graduate Studentship Award to provide a one-year stipend to UNBC Master's and PhD students. Four students received funding. The objectives of this award were to:

- Support and train thesis-based graduate students in the principles and practice of patient-oriented research;
- Provide patient-oriented training activities to develop capacity through an interdisciplinary approach that fosters collaboration between research partners (e.g., applicants, thesis supervisors, clinicians, patient partners, and community team members);
- Create opportunities for research partners to work together, from conceptualization of the research question through to dissemination and implementation of results; and
- Demonstrate the impact of the studentship for graduate students and their research.

Two graduate students received a Graduate Studentship Award for June 1, 2020 - May 31, 2021. Extensions were provided to adjust for the impact of COVID-19 on their research projects. Both presented on their graduate research projects at the 2021 Northern BC Research and Quality conference.

Rebecca Stent, Masters of Nursing

Project Title: "The Impact of Structures and Systems Present in Everyday Home Care Nursing Work on the Nurse-Patient Relationship in Northern British Columbia"

Andrew Schultz, Masters of Health Science

Project Title: "Effectiveness of an Intervention: Impact of the British Columbia Emergency Health Services Community Paramedicine Program on Chronic Condition Management in Rural and Remote British Columbia"